

CCD launches 'StayNavy' website

By Ensign Bill Danzi

Center for Career Development

A new web site that features high-tech, timely and accurate career information for Sailors and their families is now available worldwide. The web site www.staynavy.navy.mil merges the Retention Center On Line into a newly designed site developed by the Center for Career Development (CCD) at Navy Personnel Command in Millington, Tenn.

"This website is designed to provide easily accessible supplemental information pertaining to pay, benefits, duty assignments and rating information, and to allow individual record review on line," said Cmdr. David Alexander, information technology director at CCD.

Alexander said that explaining benefits and offering crucial career information are essential to keeping Sailors in the Navy. "We've recognized the need to provide Sailors and their families with access to information required to make crucial career decisions. Historically, this information was not readily accessible."

Information resources on the web site include:

- Enlisted Summary Record, Officer Data Card and Performance Summary Record on line. These provide Sailors with immediate access to professional

records. Service members will be able to verify their professional information and they also will be able to order their microfiche on line before an upcoming selection or promotion board.

- Pay and Compensation Calculator. This assists Sailors and their family members in determining how much they would have to earn in the civilian market to replace their current income.

- REDUX vs. High-3 retirement comparison. This assists members who have to make a choice between the \$30,000 bonus at 15 years of service or the High-3 retirement option. They can use this feature to best determine which option is in their best interest.

- Rating Research Aid. This provides a central and integrated source of information about any rating to include descriptions, entry qualifications, career map, selected reenlistment bonus calculator, advancement trends and education information. A search tool is offered to Sailors interested in striking for a particular rating or to use a conversion process such as SCORE (Selected Conversion and Reenlistment).

- Assignment Research Aid. This assists Sailors making transition decisions by helping them search by rate and geographic area to find an estimate of future

billet openings.

Additionally, a multitude of local links will be available to assist Sailors in finding information about a new location or to help them make transition decisions.

The best of the Retention Center On Line has been incorporated into the Counselor's Corner section by providing tools and information for both the counselors and their Sailors.

The Center for Career Development was established to help the Navy strike a more equitable balance between recruiting and retention. While retention is and always will be a command responsibility, CCD helps provide the fleet with the tools necessary to keep the Navy's high-quality Sailors in uniform. CCD is part of the Navy's continuing efforts to improve Sailors' quality of service — that is, a balanced combination of quality of life and quality of work.

To that end, one of the center's main objectives is to foster a professional climate in which retention is a culture rather than a single event conducted when a Sailor reaches a career decision crossroads.

For more information about the CCD, please contact CCD Public Affairs at (901) 874-2200.

SOQ: Combat Systems Sailor mentors new, old Sailors

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"As the divisional career counselor, most of the questions came easy to me."

"The main focus being what I'm doing for the junior Sailors career-wise," he added. "I educate the junior guys on all the opportunities the Navy provides."

The 29-year-old Winterville, N.C., native stressed that many junior Sailors aren't aware of a lot of things the Navy can do for them.

"A lot of times, I open their eyes and they think, 'I didn't know that,'" Carmon said. "I think career counselors play a vital role in ensuring Sailors have the information to make sound career

decisions."

Sometimes Carmon tries to impress the idea of success upon his Sailors whether they like it or not.

"They call me 'Major Pane,'" the 11-year Navy veteran smiled. "I drill them on the correct way to get advanced in the Navy. I try to provide the 'right way' to accomplish whatever goal junior sailors set for themselves." Carmon added that he provides subject matter experts to conduct training whether its general military training or warfare qualifications.

"One of the keys to leadership is making sure a junior Sailor knows he plays a vital role in the command," Carmon

said. "Whether they're E-1's or E-9's, everyone plays an important role in the ship's overall mission." Carmon added that without that understanding, Sailors would lack the motivation due to do their part for the mission.

Carmon said that working with people is the most rewarding aspect of his job. "I work with super people doing what I love. A lot of folks like working with computers in their spare time but we get to do it as a job," he said.

Carmon says his immediate goal is to make chief petty officer.

"I just want to be the best I can be," Carmon said.